

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway**

### **Feasibility Report**

Reported to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee  
House and Senate Education Committees  
March 1, 2014

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# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Executive Summary**

The Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report was prepared by the Division of Continual Learning (DCL) at the University of North Carolina Greensboro (UNCG) and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (DPI) to comply with Section 11.18 of S.L. 2013–360. Section 11.18 charged UNCG and DPI with studying the feasibility of restarting the UNCG iSchool® program as a part of the Career and College Promise Program. UNCG iSchool® and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction findings support the inclusion of the UNCG iSchool® program as part of Career and College Promise based on the following criteria: Accessibility, Scalability, Affordability, and Measurability and Accountability

This report chronicles the successful delivery of UNCG iSchool® – a customized program that provided high school students an opportunity to earn early college credit between 2007 and 2011 as part of Learn and Earn Online (LEO). During this time period, more than 15,000 registrations (3-credit-hour courses) and more than 41,500 transferable college credit hours were generated throughout North Carolina. The LEO iteration of UNCG iSchool® enabled DCL to work through many of the problems and obstacles normally encountered when establishing a new program.

UNCG iSchool® and DPI recommend the integration of UNCG iSchool® into the existing Career and College Promise framework as a receipt-based customized program not funded under the University of North Carolina Semester Credit Hour Enrollment Change Funding Model. Tuition would be calculated on a per credit hour basis, excluding fees. UNCG would seek UNC General Administration permission to assess the per credit hour charge for this customized program at the highest allowable undergraduate tuition rate for the UNC system as approved by the Board of Governors. The off-model receipt-based customized program would provide cost savings when compared to when the program was governed by Learn and Earn Online (LEO). The limitation of only charging tuition, even at the Board of Governors highest approved campus rate, will not fully cover costs.

It is anticipated that the recommendations herein, will provide a starting point for further discussion by all constituents related to how to re-establish the UNCG iSchool® program into the Career and College Promise program to meet the needs of high school students in North Carolina and to increase access options for early college credit.

For readability, the document is organized with the UNCG iSchool® and North Carolina Department of Public Instruction recommendations presented in highlighted boxes followed by the supporting evidence drawn from historic UNCG iSchool® data.

**Career and College Promise  
UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

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# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

## Charge to UNCG iSchool® and Department of Public Instruction

As directed by Section 11.18 of S.L. 2013-360, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG) and the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) have jointly studied the feasibility of restarting the UNCG iSchool® program as a part of the Career and College Promise Program.

**UNC ISCHOOL/CAREER AND COLLEGE PROMISE PROGRAM** Senate Bill 402-Ratified Session Law 2013-360, page 125.

**SECTION 11.18.** The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Department of Public Instruction shall jointly study the feasibility of restarting the UNC-G iSchool® by incorporating it as a part of the Career and College Promise Program. As part of the study, the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Department of Public Instruction shall consider the cost of incorporating iSchool® within the existing structure of the Career and College Promise Program. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the Department of Public Instruction shall report to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee by March 1, 2014, regarding their findings and recommendations.

### Career and College Promise

Career and College Promise provides seamless dual enrollment educational opportunities for eligible North Carolina high school students in order to accelerate completion of college certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees that lead to college transfer or provide entry-level job skills.

### UNCG iSchool®

UNCG iSchool® was created to extend early college online learning opportunities to high school students across North Carolina. UNCG iSchool® combines innovative web technologies, interactive course design, and high quality teaching with open access to rigorous and relevant learning regardless of a student's location or financial circumstance.

# Graphic Summary

The following three pages provide a visual representation of a Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool<sup>®</sup> Pathway: feasibility factors, key program drivers, academic success factors, and courses.

# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway

## IS FEASIBLE BECAUSE IT'S...

### ACCESSIBLE

- Online learning opportunities are available regardless of student's location or financial circumstance
- Innovative courses focus on strong curricular content and the development of 21st century workforce skills
- A strong partnership exists between stakeholders—UNCG, DPI, Schools

### SCALABLE

- Program and Courses are designed for capacity fluctuations
- Dynamic Academic services ensure student support at scale
- Responsive Program Policies and Administrative Infrastructure provide growth opportunities

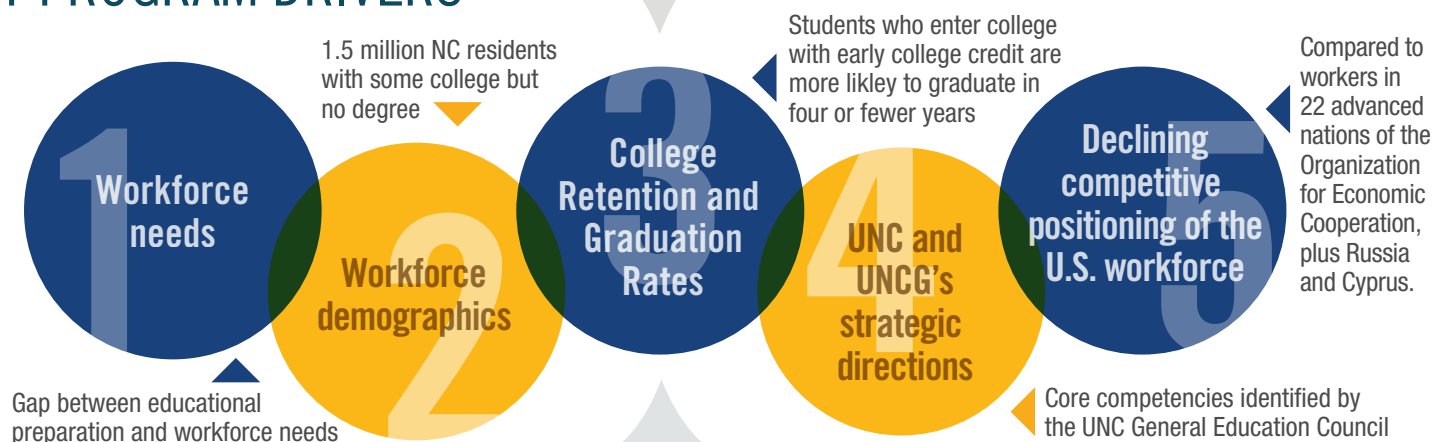
### AFFORDABLE

- Career and College Promise provides credit opportunity at no charge to eligible NC high school students

### MEASURABLE & ACCOUNTABLE

- Quantitative and qualitative data analysis is central to program evaluation and improvement
- UNCG iSchool systems measure Reach, Student Performance, Course Quality, Program Effectiveness
- Annual Reports will be provided to NC General Assembly, Department of Public Instruction, UNC General Administration

## KEY PROGRAM DRIVERS



## 1 Innovative course design

### Content

- Interactive
- Primary and secondary sources
- Branching logic trees

### Communication

- Synchronous
- Group discussion
- Embedded chat
- Professor interaction and feedback

### Assessment

- Interactive case studies
- Digital media projects
- Proctored quizzes & exams
- Papers & Presentations

## 2 Personalized student support

- Trained on-site facilitators
- Robust technical support
- Academic alert strategies
- Student coaching
- On-site supervision

## 3 Experienced UNCG faculty

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

## ACADEMIC SUCCESS FACTORS

# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway

## UNCG iSchool® Courses

		INTEGRATIVE THINKING	DESIGN & SYSTEM THINKING	COMPUTATIONAL THINKING	NEW MEDIA LITERACY	GLOBAL AWARENESS & CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING	SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE & SELF-AWARENESS
Natural Sciences	AST203: Conceptual Astronomy	●	●	●			
	BIO105: Major Concepts in Biology	●	●	●	●	●	●
	BIO105: Lab	●	●	●	●	●	●
Social/Behavioral Sciences	GEO103: Earth Science	●	●		●	●	●
	ATY213: Cultural Anthropology	●				●	●
	ECO201: Principle of Microeconomics	●	●	●			
	PSC100: American Politics	●	●			●	●
	PSC105: Political Issues	●	●		●	●	●
	PSY121: General Psychology	●				●	●
	SOC101: Introduction to Sociology	●			●	●	●
	SOC201: Social Problems	●	●		●	●	●
	DCE200: Dance Appreciation	●			●	●	●
	MST225: Masterpieces of Cinema	●			●	●	●
Humanities/Fine Arts	MST241: Music Appreciation	●			●	●	●
	PHI121: Contemporary Moral Problems	●			●	●	●
	CCI: Mythology	●			●		●
	ISM-110: Business Computing	●	●	●			
Other	KIN220: Physical Fitness for Life	●		●	●		●

## 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE SKILLS

- INTEGRATIVE THINKING**  
 Integrating reason, intuition, and imagination to build holistic models that capture complicated causal relationships
- DESIGN + SYSTEM THINKING**  
 Creating unique, non-obvious solutions to ill-defined problems by applying design principles to systemic wholeness
- COMPUTATIONAL THINKING**  
 Reaching a desired outcome through interactions with data
- NEW MEDIA LITERACY**  
 Understanding the new language of communication—spoken, written, video, digital animation, augmented reality, gaming, and social media
- GLOBAL AWARENESS & CULTURAL UNDERSTANDING**  
 Developing the empathy, understanding, and knowledge to operate in a global environment
- SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE & SELF-AWARENESS**  
 Recognizing how one's personality, behavior, and emotions impact self and others

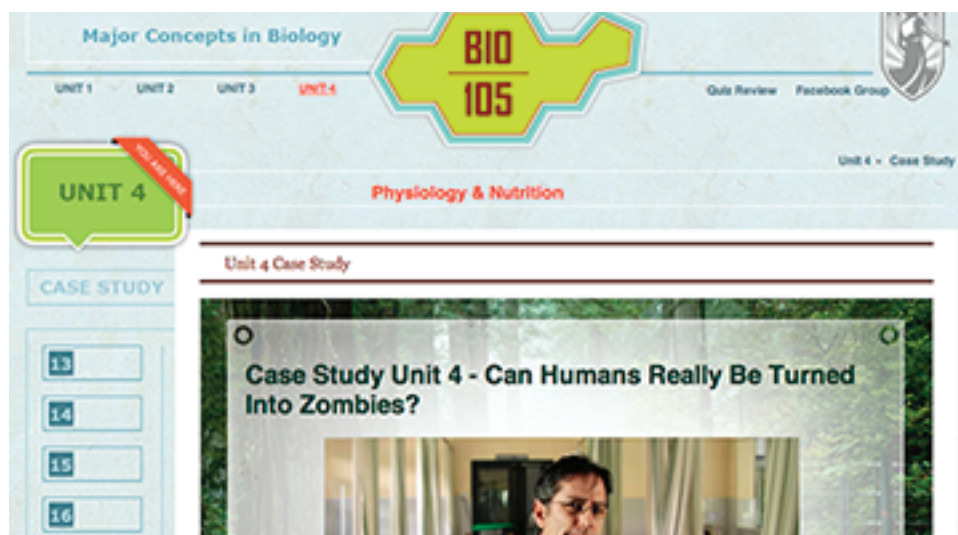


# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway

## ► Course Examples

### Major Concepts of Biology

Human biology and the biology of every other living thing are interrelated to such an extent that, ultimately, the fate of our species could be determined by an organism too small to see. Explore our relationship to the planet and how we are reshaping that relationship through biotechnology and genetics. Topic sections emphasize specific areas including conservation biology, biotechnology, and current issues.



### Music Appreciation

Music Appreciation is an exciting and unexpected journey through Western music. The tuneful town of Musicopolis is holding its annual music festival and you're invited. The town's eccentric and eclectic characters take you through the forms, eras and styles of Western music where you'll meet important composers and hear some of their major works.



### Political Issues

Examine political ideologies and competing theories about freedom, justice, and equality throughout history and around the world. Challenge your political opinions and rethink your responsibilities using introspective examinations of current global political issues. Defy yourself. Define yourself.





# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Recommendations and Supporting Evidence**

UNCG iSchool® and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction findings support the inclusion of the UNCG iSchool® program as part of Career and College Promise based on the following criteria:

- Accessibility
- Scalability
- Affordability
- Measurability and Accountability

The feasibility document is organized by criteria with the UNCG iSchool® and North Carolina Department of Public Instruction recommendations presented in highlighted boxes followed by the supporting evidence drawn from historic UNCG iSchool® data.

Letters of support from North Carolina school superintendents are included in Appendix D.

# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

## Accessible

### Recommendation

UNCG iSchool® can efficiently and effectively implement a program under the Career & College Promise model by tapping the successful academic, administrative, and university/school professional network infrastructure established between 2007 and 2011. UNCG iSchool® believes that adherence to the principles and policies and procedures below make an early college credit dual enrollment program accessible.

#### *Principles*

- Course availability regardless of a student's location or financial circumstance.
- Innovative, rigorous online courses designed to capitalize on the interactive and multimodal potential of the Web and student learning styles.
- Courses taught by experienced UNCG faculty.
- Strong relationship building between stakeholders—university, department of public instruction, and schools.

#### *Policies and Procedures (under normal circumstances)*

- Students should take the courses during the regularly scheduled school day, and UNCG-trained high school facilitators supervise labs. Independent study is not allowed.
- Eligibility to enroll extended to juniors and seniors with approval of Principal and a GPA of 3.0 or greater (other Career and College Promise College Transfer pathway students follow similar criteria).
- UNCG iSchool® students do not share sections with university-matriculated or visiting students.

# Career and College Promise

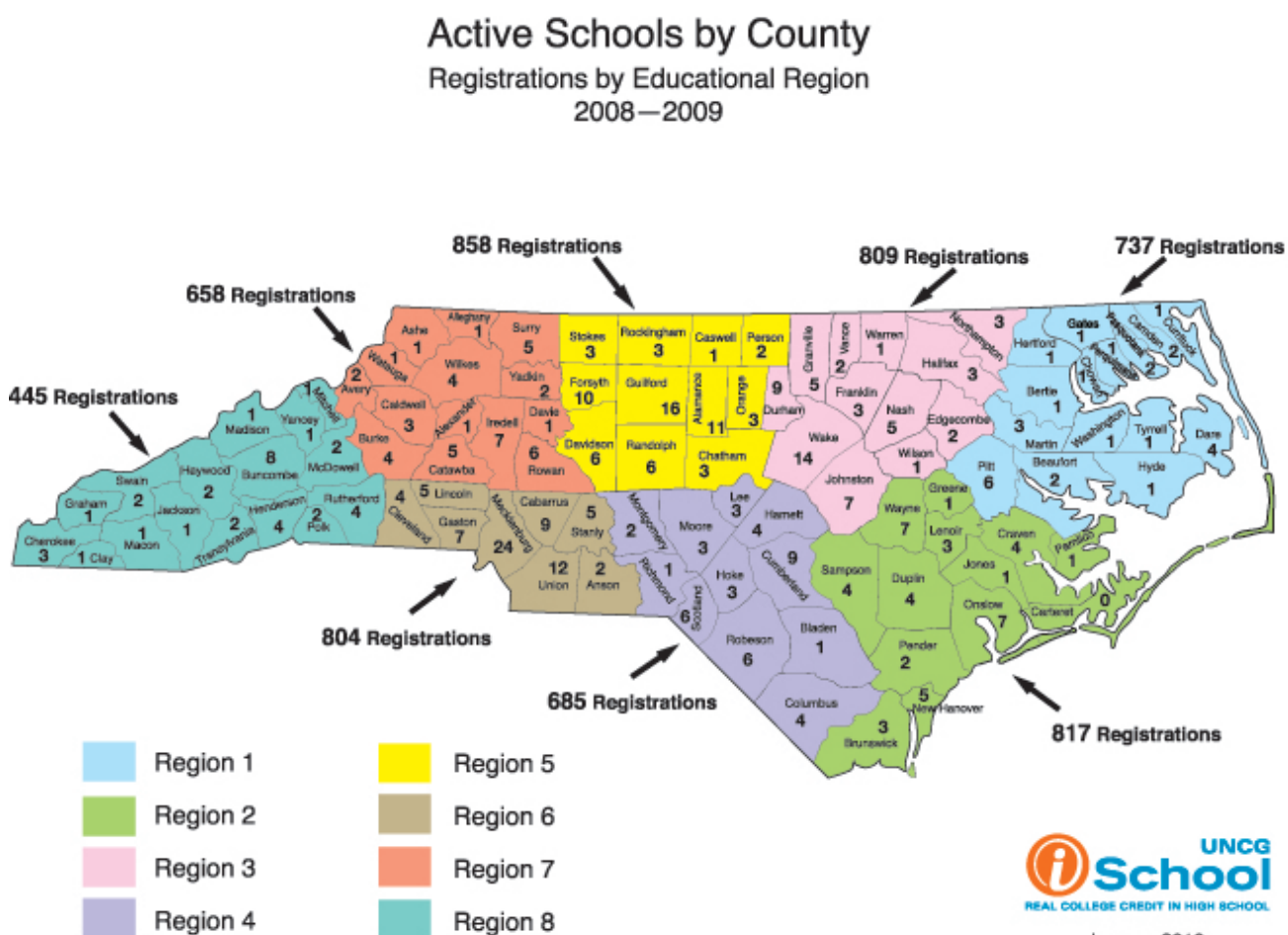
## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

### UNCG iSchool® Supporting Evidence

The text below chronicles the success of the iSchool program offered by UNCG's Division of Continual Learning from 2007–2011.

#### Growth Was Result of State Funding Support

Students across the state enrolled in fairly equal numbers in UNCG iSchool® courses. Written Memoranda of Understanding (MOU), required originally by DPI, were signed with LEAs (Local Education Areas) in all 100 counties. At the height of the program (2008–2009), registrations were well distributed throughout the eight educational regions as shown in the following chart.



January 2010

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Course Design**

Courses offered through the customized UNCG iSchool® program were regular UNCG introductory-level college courses developed by UNCG and the Division of Continual Learning (DCL) with fulltime UNCG faculty. Though the same courses were often taken by matriculated UNCG students, UNCG iSchool® sections were reserved solely for high school juniors and seniors.

All online courses used for UNCG iSchool® were created in-house by DCL's online development teams, which include curriculum specialists, instructional designers, coders, videographers, graphic designers, animators, and editors. These teams worked closely with faculty from UNCG academic departments to convert their content for online delivery in highly interactive formats.

DCL courses incorporate many interactive elements such as games, video clips, audio voice-overs, case studies, branching logic trees, embedded chat, and alternative assessments with immediate feedback.

UNCG iSchool® courses have received national and international awards:

#### **U.S. Distance Learning Association**

- 2009 USDLA Best Practices in Distance Learning Programming Award
- 2009 Bronze Award for Excellence in Online Course Design
- 2008 Platinum Award for Best Practices in Online Distance Learning
- 2007 Gold Award for Best Practices in Online Distance Learning
- 2005 Silver Award for Best Practices in Online Distance Learning

#### **Campus Technology**

- 2006 Innovators Award in Gaming

#### **NC Distance Learning Association**

- 2008 NCDLA Best Practices in Distance Learning
- 2009 NCDLA Best Practices in Distance Learning Programming Award

UNCG iSchool® courses offered included (course descriptions in Appendix A):

- American Politics
- Business Computing I
- Conceptual Astronomy
- Contemporary Moral Problems
- Cultural Anthropology
- Dance Appreciation
- General Psychology
- German I and II
- Introduction Sociology
- Introduction to Earth Science
- Major Concepts of Biology
- Masterpieces of Cinema
- Microeconomics
- Music Appreciation
- Physical Fitness for Life
- Political Issues
- Social Problems

# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

### Critical Skill Competencies

In addition to teaching for discipline understanding, UNCG's iSchool® courses deliberately and consciously put emphasis on the deepening of 21<sup>st</sup> century critical skill competencies that cross career and industry sectors. These skills supported those identified in both regional and national workforce surveys and analysis from business, social, and education sectors.

The research identified six skill categories critical for the workforce of the future.

**Table 1: Workforce Skills and Related Skill Competencies**

Workforce Skills	Skill Competencies
Computational Thinking	Quantitative Fluency Analytic Thinking Communication Fluency
Integrative Thinking	Critical Thinking Creativity Communication Fluency
Design and System Thinking	Creativity Critical Thinking Quantitative Fluency
New Media Literacy	Communication Fluency Cross-cultural Competency Collaboration
Global Awareness and Cultural Understanding	Cross-cultural competency Collaboration Leadership Social Intelligence
Social Intelligence and Self-Awareness	Communication Fluency Social Intelligence Initiative Leadership

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **UNCG Faculty**

UNCG iSchool® instructors were members of UNCG's faculty. UNCG iSchool® provided additional program-specific training and support for the faculty who taught in the program. UNCG iSchool® faculty were committed to online teaching and participated actively in the delivery of the courses.

### **Stakeholder Communication and Relationship Building**

Frequent and comprehensive communication between UNCG iSchool®, partner schools, parents, and students was essential for program success as in the 2007–2011 iteration. Communication included a variety of tools. UNCG iSchool® communicated weekly with high school personnel throughout the semester to help everyone stay on top of student performance. In addition, UNCG iSchool® provided:

- Onsite school visits
- UNCG iSchool® website
- Ongoing dialogue through email, phone, and direct mail
- Collateral—e.g., handbooks and brochures
- Grade reporting tool
- Annual regional professional development conferences

# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

## Scalable

### Recommendation

The Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway can be scaled up to meet the needs of the Career and College target audience. The UNCG iSchool® program is structured for growth. The course and program design allow for capacity fluctuations up and down without negatively impacting quality.

UNCG DCL has the capacity to efficiently and effectively re-introduce UNCG iSchool® courses and support services because the infrastructure and operation policies and procedures have been successfully vetted and established.

### UNCG iSchool® Supporting Evidence

#### Registration History

UNCG iSchool® began registering students under the Learn and Earn Online (LEO) Program in 2007–08. The following table summarizes UNCG iSchool® registrations from Fall 2007 through Spring 2011.

**Table 2: UNCG iSchool® Registrations under the LEO Program 2007–2011**

Academic Year	Schools	Registrations	Notes
2007–2008	126	2,650	
2008–2009	277	5,813	
2009–2010	252	5,587	Funding reduced
Fall 2010	0	(2,205)	Funding cancelled
Spring 2011	c. 151	1,363	Funding restricted to STEM offerings
Grand Total	c. 300	15,413	



# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

**2009–10:** UNCG iSchool® had capacity for 11,600 registrations, but state funding cuts for LEO forced UNCG iSchool® registration for fall to close in August; spring registration was then limited to 2,500 seats.

**2010–11:** 2,025 registrations had to be nullified when Senate Bill 897, Section 7.24h disallowed spending for any courses other than those in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). In the middle of summer DCL had to notify UNCG iSchool® high school partners, parents, students, and UNCG faculty that fall courses had been cancelled; DCL then effectively instituted all new courses in STEM in compliance with the legislature.

**Spring 2011:** UNCG iSchool® resumed courses with five STEM offerings and 1,363 enrollments. 68% of our former high school partners opted to re-enroll students.

**2011–12:** UNCG iSchool® received no state funding from the General Assembly.

### **Responsive Program Policy, Procedures, and Administrative Infrastructure**

UNCG iSchool® employed a full-time support staff: a director and two full-time curriculum specialists to administer the program, a coaching supervisor and three half-time coaches to support student academic success, and a UNCG iSchool® Help Desk that provided more than 60 hours weekly of technical consulting, problem-solving, and registration help to students, faculty, parents, and schools.

#### *Policies and Procedures*

- Students required a principal's signature for participation in the program.
- Students had to take the courses during the regularly scheduled school day, and UNCG-trained high school facilitators supervised their labs. Independent study was not allowed.
- UNCG iSchool® students did not share sections with university-matriculated or visiting students.

#### *Promotion and Recruitment*

An early challenge for UNCG iSchool® was building awareness of its existence among the students, parents, and school administrators who would most benefit from the program. A variety of media were used to achieve this objective.

- Online ads
- Billboards
- Television commercials
- Radio ads
- Promotional materials
- Recruitment events

# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

### Dynamic Academic Support Services: A History

#### *Student Support*

UNCG iSchool® (formerly Fast Forward) served North Carolina high school students from 1997 to 2011. With a mission to provide early college credit to high school students, DCL recognized that the UNCG iSchool® program would need to be *transitional* in nature. Though UNCG iSchool® students took the exact same courses as UNCG students and were held to the same standards of success, UNCG iSchool® provided a more supportive environment to acclimate them to differences in high school and college expectations. Their progress was closely monitored, and they were encouraged to rise to the challenge. To accomplish this, DCL implemented student support services beyond those offered to main campus students.

#### *Onsite Facilitators and Academic Alert Strategies*

A one-room schoolhouse model (that is, with students taking different courses in the same room) was adopted to allow high schools the greatest scheduling flexibility because it eliminated the need for a critical mass of students in any given course. The UNCG iSchool® students accessed their courses during the regular school day in computer labs. The program required that the lab be monitored by a trained UNCG iSchool® facilitator. UNCG iSchool® provided training for all high school computer lab facilitators, who managed proctor tests, ensured attendance, and resolved onsite problems. The facilitators worked in close partnership with UNCG iSchool® faculty and administrators. Support services provided in this iteration of iSchool® included the activities below:

- Data collection and analysis tracked student performance across a range of criteria weekly. Summary reports were sent to instructors as well as to high school counselors, who could then intercede and counsel students more effectively.
- A dedicated Help Desk staffed by trained support personnel operated 60+ hours weekly, including nights and weekends. Analysts helped students, parents, instructors, and high school personnel with solving computer problems, navigating courseware, assisting registration, test resets, and communication. Help Desk was available by phone, email, Instant Message (IM), and discussion board posts.
- A case management system supported thorough-tracking of technical issues to resolution.
- Enhanced communication protocols were established between UNCG iSchool® administrators and high school personnel, who were generally unfamiliar with University vs. high school requirements. This group often gathered and shared information and mediated conflicts between the various educational institutions.

# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

- All facilitators who supervised the high school computer labs, managed proctor tests, ensured attendance, and resolved onsite problems underwent mandatory training.
- The Salesforce® customer relationship management tool archived student and high school personnel contact information as well as communications with all partners.
- The UNCG iSchool® website provided online access to resources: student handbook, Blackboard tutorials, orientations, and success tips.
- Varied social media outlets were established to reach partners, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and blogs.

As an enhancement to the weekly academic alert strategy to track and report student performance, UNCG iSchool® launched a student coaching program that matched small student groups with trained staff members, who then communicated regularly with individuals by phone, email, and instant message (IM). Coaches helped students transition to college, keeping them on task, sharing time-management and study skills, encouraging and recognizing success, and opening lines of communication between students and instructors. Data from one of the most challenging courses, Psychology 121, showed a correlation between student success (as measured by final grades) and the presence of an active coach.

### *Student Success Rate*

Because the primary purpose for an early college program is to help students complete college in four or fewer years, grades are a key indicator of success.

The vast majority of UNCG iSchool® students passed their courses. For example, 91% passed in Fall 2008 and 92% passed in Spring 2009. However, this indicates only the percentage of students who received any grade other than F. A more pointed indicator is the overall GPA. The overall GPA program-wide is outlined below; in most instances it rose with each subsequent semester.

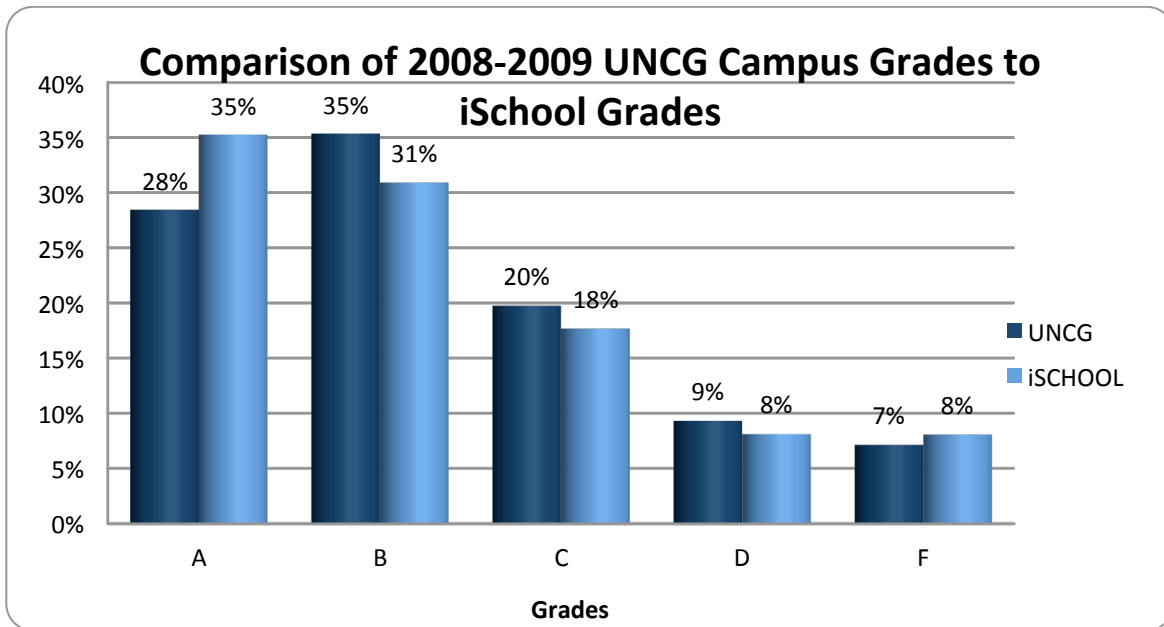
**Table 3: Average UNCG iSchool® GPA by Semester, 2007–2011**

Semester/Year	GPA	Notes
Fall 2007	2.651	
Spring 2008	2.504	
Fall 2008	2.562	
Spring 2009	2.729	Student support expanded
Fall 2009	2.784	
Spring 2010	3.053	
Spring 2011	2.805	STEM-only courses

## Career and College Promise

### UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

The grade frequencies and overall GPAs of UNCG iSchool® students compare favorably to UNCG main campus students enrolled in the same online courses during the same terms, as the following chart indicates.



#### *Post-UNCG iSchool®*

As students progress from high school to college, then possibly from college to college, their identification numbers change. This poses a challenge to track student performance post-UNCG iSchool® in terms of grades, retention, and time to graduation. We hope to gather such data in the future if a universal ID is implemented.

#### *Technical Support History*

UNCG iSchool® employed a number of mechanisms and practices to ensure courses' technical quality. For example, faculty received one-on-one training on how to use new technologies such as synchronous audio communication (i.e., Elluminate, Google Hangout) and podcasting. To ensure that faculty knew the most current and effective technology, each course had an assigned instructional technology consultant (ITC) to help with problems, upload new content, and make revisions. Staff personnel would troubleshoot technical problems, assist with software and hardware, and help with databases.

In developing UNCG iSchool® courses, the DCL online development team aimed for extensible courses adaptable to the latest technology. It monitored where the web was headed, how students learned, how they used the web, and incorporated such trends into the course designs. While existing technologies like wikis, blogs, and podcasts were useful, the team pushed to the

# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

edge of what was possible—from using state-of-the-art multimedia equipment to create HD videos students could interact with or view on mobile devices to using software programs that let the team create games and other interactive learning applications. Host-side technology included:

- *Database & Programming.* MySQL, Ruby on Rails, jQuery, AJAX, PHP, HTML, XML
- *Design.* Photoshop, InDesign, Flash, Dreamweaver, Maya, Cinema 4D, and Sketchup
- *Multimedia.* Final Cut Pro, After Effects, Soundtrack Pro, and Motion

Public schools often had older hardware, more restrictive access policies, and high lab demand. The team's highest priority was to provide students with excellent courses with more modest user-side requirements:

- High-speed Internet connectivity
- Windows or Mac-based computers with 1.4 GHz or more of operating speed and 2 GB RAM
- The latest Windows or Macintosh Internet browser software and Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint programs
- The latest Flash and QuickTime plug-ins, as well as Real Audio player and Acrobat Reader
- Sound-capable computers with a screen resolution of 1024x768 or higher
- Headsets

A pre-service survey and test let school technology personnel review their resources and test classes before enrolling students. An UNCG iSchool® team was available for onsite visits when assistance was needed.

# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

### Affordable

#### Recommendation

Funding terms (below in bold) are used to explain the rationale proposed for the UNCG iSchool® Career and College Promise Pathway funding. These terms are defined in the *User Manual of The University of North Carolina Semester Credit Hour Enrollment Change Funding Model*.

As described earlier in this report, UNCG iSchool® is a **customized program** designed by UNCG's Division of Continual Learning to specifically offer early college credit to high school students. The Division of Continual Learning is the designated continuing education and **extension (103 Budget Purpose)** division at UNCG. By definition, **extension** is an office or division that oversees credit or non-credit instruction offered to non-traditional groups of students off-campus. Programs offered off-campus through extension may apply either **on-model** (funding methods receiving state appropriation) or **off-model** (funding methods NOT receiving state appropriation). **Off-model programs** can be **receipt-based**—contracted or customized programs/courses approved by UNC-General Administration where tuition and other associated costs are designed to cover the full cost of the program/course.

Administrative and academic infrastructures developed for UNCG iSchool® as part of the Learn and Earn Online (LEO) Program (2007–11) make integration into the existing Career and College Promise framework feasible as an **Off-model receipt-based customized program**, Option 2 on Table 4. Option 1 (Table 4) is *not* a feasible funding model for UNCG at this time.

#### Option #2 Off Model Funding for the Career and College UNCG iSchool® Pathway

1. Is consistent with current Budget Purpose 103 funding regulations for Extension Offices.
2. Falls within the dollar cap parameters set forth in House Bill 950 Session Law 2012-142 which caps tuition reimbursement amounts to the highest approved Board of Governors tuition rate, without fees and prohibits funding under The University of North Carolina Semester Credit Hour Enrollment Change Funding Model. See Appendix C for legislation from House Bill 950 Session Law 2012-142.
3. Provides cost savings when compared to when the program was governed by Learn and Earn Online (LEO).

## Career and College Promise

### UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

UNCG iSchool® will invoice DPI for Option 2 reimbursement on the following basis:

- Tuition will be calculated on a per credit hour basis, excluding fees
- Credit hours will **not** be funded under the University of North Carolina Semester Credit Hour Enrollment Change Funding Model.
- UNCG will request UNC General Administration permission to assess the per credit hour charge for this **customized program** at the highest allowable undergraduate tuition rate for the UNC system as approved by the Board of Governors.
- **Customized Tuition** rate will not exceed the highest undergraduate tuition and allowable rates approved by University of North Carolina Board of Governors in keeping with House Bill 950 Session Law 2012-142.

It is difficult to project demand and total annual budget for the Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® option. Table 2, page 15, provides historic registration data for UNCG iSchool® under the Learn and Earn Online (LEO) initiative. Table 4 (following) shows the credit hours and funding for UNCG iSchool® from 2008–2010 under Learn and Earn (LEO) compared to funding options for UNCG iSchool® Career and College Promise. The limitation of only charging tuition, even at the Board of Governors highest approved campus rate, will not fully cover costs.



# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

**Table 4:** Funding Options: UNCG iSchool® Career & College Promise

UNCG iSchool® and LEO			Funding Options UNCG iSchool® Career & College Promise			
Year	Actual Credit Hours	Actual Funding	Option #1: On-Model Funding Requirements***	Option #1: On-Model Funding compared to LEO Funding	Option #2: Off-Model Funding Requirements****	Option #2: Off-Model Funding compared to LEO Funding
2008–09	17,439	\$5,263,460*	\$5,199,554	–1.2%	\$3,784,263	–28.1%
2009–10	16,761	\$4,610,726**	\$4,997,403	+8.4%	\$3,637,137	–21.1%

\* Total requirements were calculated using the Enrollment Budget 12-Cell Funding Matrix, 2008–09. Credit hours were distributed across Cells 1, 2, and 3 according to CIP classification.

\*\* Total requirements were calculated using the Enrollment Budget 12-Cell Funding Matrix, 2009–10. Credit hours were distributed across Cells 1, 2, and 3 according to CIP classification.

\*\*\*Total requirements were calculated using the historic Credit Hours base and the Enrollment Budget 12-Cell Funding Matrix, 2013–14. All credit hours were calculated at Category 1 rates for purposes of this exercise. The resulting total requirement amount therefore is lower than if the credit hours were distributed across categories according to actual CIP classification.

\*\*\*\*Total Requirements were calculated using the historic Credit Hour base and by applying a per credit hour charge equivalent to the highest UNC undergraduate tuition rate approved by the Board of Governors for 2013–14.

# Career and College Promise

## UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

### UNCG iSchool® Supporting Evidence

#### Learn and Earn (LEO) Funding 2007–2011

The North Carolina General Assembly funding provided the basis for UNCG iSchool's® exponential growth between 2007–2011 by extending the opportunity for college credit at no charge to all NC public school juniors and seniors. The dual enrollment program delivered online UNCG courses taught by university instructors. School computer labs were set up as a one-room schoolhouse model with students working independently on their course(s) of choice. This eliminated high school scheduling problems and enhanced scalability.

State-supported funding was based on the existing university funding model. The total credit hours produced in each course category were entered into the Enrollment Funding Matrix to generate a Total Requirements amount that approximated the amount of state support. Table 4 summarizes UNCG iSchool® funding from the state 2007–2011.

**Table 5: UNCG iSchool® Funding Under Learn and Earn**

Academic Year	Funding	Notes
2006–2007	\$250,000	Special funding from the Governor's office
2007–2008	\$1,262,393	
2008–2009	\$5,263,460	
2009–2010	\$4,610,726	
Fall 2010	\$0	Funding by North Carolina General Assembly discontinued
Spring 2011	\$1,817,338	NC General Assembly funding reissued, restricted to STEM courses*

\*STEM = Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

## Measurable and Accountable

### Recommendation

As part of the Career and College Promise program, UNCG iSchool® will rely on quantitative and qualitative data analysis to evaluate and improve the service to students and stakeholders.

We will measure:

- Program reach as defined by headcount, registrations, LEAs, Schools
- Student success as defined by grade distributions
- Course quality as defined by student evaluations
- Program effectiveness as defined by UNCG DCL, DPI, School surveys

### UNCG iSchool® Supporting Evidence

- UNCG iSchool® tracked program reach and student demographics.
- UNCG iSchool® tracked student performance comparing both peer-to-peer and high school-to-college results.
- UNCG iSchool® communicated weekly with high school personnel throughout the semester to help everyone stay on top of student performance.
- The UNCG iSchool® Scholars Program recognized exceptional performance of its students.

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Appendix A: UNCG iSchool® Course Descriptions**

#### **American Politics**

Americans approach politics with a unique set of assumptions and values. What is it that sets Americans apart from the rest of the world? And how is this game of politics played? How do our formal and informal institutions interact with one another to create policy? Political Science 100 is a survey of American political culture, constitutional development, and the structure and functions of our national government and informal institutions, such as political parties. At the end of this course students will be able to explain the distinctive and unusual features of America's democracy, and the importance of the Constitution as a foundation for the system.

#### **Business Computing I**

Computers are wonderful things. With them we can chat with our friends, look at their vacation pictures, or download our favorite songs or even order pizza, but there are other uses for computers that are much more important to business. Uses like word processing, spreadsheets, graphics, and others (that computers were initially invented to perform) will be covered. Develop your skills and become familiar and productive with the latest computer applications and network functions.

#### **Contemporary Moral Problems**

One of the quickest ways to find an argument is to pick an issue, any issue, and defend one side of it. As our society becomes more complicated, we frequently find ourselves being polarized by topics we only just learned about in today's newspaper; last week's hot-button issue is quickly replaced by this week's. As active participants in society we feel compelled to weigh in on one side or the other, armed only with the tiniest bit of information. Where do you stand (or think you stand) on topics such as abortion, euthanasia, global warming, war, sexual mores, capital punishment and a host of others? There is always more to every story than meets the eye (or ear); and as responsible citizens, we must always learn more than we can get from thirty-second sound bites.

#### **Conceptual Astronomy**

The night sky has been a source of wonder and awe for mankind since the earliest humans sought meaning in the light from a billion stars. The alignment and movement of the stars and planets conjured celestial images and were thought to influence the destinies of men. Today, through the benefit of technology, we know more and more about the behavior and makeup of planets, galaxies, and stars, including our own sun, but are still fascinated by our relationship to them. From the Big Bang to black holes, this course provides an introduction to the study of astronomy including planets, the sun, stars, galaxies, and cosmology.

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Cultural Anthropology**

What is wrong with the rest of the world that it doesn't think or act like we do? With as much as we share biologically with people everywhere in the world, it's astounding how many radically different cultures there are and how little we know about most of them. Explore the meaning of "being human" from the rainforests of the Amazon to the deserts of Central Asia, from great cities to humble villages—put your own cultural biases to the test as we examine the enormous diversity of our little planet.

### **Dance Appreciation**

Dance is a form of self- and cultural expression that has roots in every society, from the most primitive to the most modern. It conveys every emotion from grief to joy and has given meaning and identity to people since the dawn of time. As with every art form, there are basic elements that need to be understood before we can truly appreciate dance for what and why it is. Movement and music are forever linked in most people's minds, but dance is also tied to many visual art forms as well. Experience dance as an observer and a participant.

### **Elementary German I & II**

Elementary German I & II are First-year language courses focusing on the essentials of elementary German speaking, listening, reading, writing, vocabulary, and grammar. The courses use an online textbook, and course materials offer well-designed and sophisticated instructional features that enhance language acquisition through interactive and multi-media activities.

### **General Psychology**

This course will survey the many subtopics that together comprise the modern science of psychology. We will begin by looking at how the science of psychology is conducted, and then explore such areas as the nervous system, perception, learning, conditioning, memory, language, thinking, problem solving, motivation, and emotion. The course concludes with a focus on social influences on thinking and behavior, and on the nature of psychological disorders and their treatment.

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Introduction to Earth Science**

Earth is a restless planet. Continents drift apart, volcanoes blow their tops, storms rip paths of destruction, rising seas inundate coastlines—and we have to live here! It's all part of a process that's been going on for millions of years. Although man has only been around for a small fraction of that time, we can examine physical evidence of the changes our planet has gone through and investigate the processes of change taking place right now. This course surveys basic concepts and processes integrating the nature of the earth's three primary physical systems: the solid earth and continents, the ocean basins and the oceans, and the atmosphere's weather.

### **Introduction to Sociology**

Peter Berger once claimed, "It can be said that the first wisdom of sociology is this—things are not what they seem." The reason Berger would say something like that is that the sociological point of view is not part of our culture in the U.S. Most of us believe that human behavior, feeling, and thinking are psychological or individual in origin. Sociology, on the other hand, sees the influence of social factors on human behavior, emotion, and thought. The objective in this course is to see the world through social lenses.

### **Major Concepts of Biology**

Human biology and the biology of every other living thing are interrelated to such an extent that, ultimately, the fate of our species could be determined by an organism too small to see. Explore our relationship to the planet and how we are reshaping that relationship through biotechnology and genetics. Topic sections emphasize specific areas including conservation biology, biotechnology, and current issues. Survey sections emphasize basic aspects of biology, including genetics, physiology, and ecology.

### **Masterpieces of Cinema**

No other entertainment medium has had the same impact as the motion picture. Movies have influenced style, morality and public opinion from the earliest days of flickering black-and-white images up through today's digital blockbusters. Take a cinematic journey through the annals of film and examine the movies as an art form. Learn to deconstruct the components of a film and critically analyze the contributions of writers, directors, and cinematographers as you view some of the most important films of all time. (MPAA Rating of PG-13 or lower)

# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Music Appreciation**

Music Appreciation is an exciting and unexpected journey through Western music. The tuneful town of Musicopolis is holding its annual music festival and you're invited. The town's eccentric and eclectic characters take you through the forms, eras, and styles of Western music where you'll meet important composers and hear some of their major works. You don't need any musical training so come along. The festival is about to begin!

### **Physical Fitness for Life**

Every time you open the newspaper or turn on the TV, you read or hear about the latest health crisis in our society: obesity, heart disease, diabetes, you name it. The truth is that many health problems can be avoided or lessened by developing and committing to a physical fitness program that we can live with and enjoy (yes, enjoy) throughout our lifetime. It's never too late to start. A healthier, happier life can be yours by starting today, and we'll show you how to begin planning your physical fitness program.

### **Political Issues**

Experience political science like never before. Are you a Socialist, an Anarchist, or a Libertarian? Would you torture your fellow man? Examine political ideologies and competing theories about freedom, justice, and equality throughout history and around the world. Challenge your political opinions and rethink your responsibilities using introspective examinations of current global political issues. Defy yourself. Define yourself.

### **Principles of Microeconomics**

Introduction to microeconomic principles and analysis. Topics include the market economy, supply and demand, shortages and surpluses, competition and monopoly, international trade, and public policy issues. When a group of Sarbonians—aliens totally unfamiliar with the concept of scarcity—find themselves stranded on a hostile planet light-years from home, all sorts of things can go wrong—and quickly do. By the way, congratulations! You've just been elected their leader. In this interactive video game/economics course, your survival depends on growing an economy from scratch—providing your crew with enough food, shelter, and medicine—while battling the elements, evading some very unfriendly wolves and rodents, and finding the cause of a mysterious disease that threatens to wipe out your crew. Later, using your newfound economic abilities, you grow your civilization, master trade, figure out the finer points of supply and demand, and create a business empire. Along the way, you'll polish your math skills, rediscover biology, and learn something about ethics. You may never want to go home again.



# **Career and College Promise**

## **UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

### **Social Problems**

A trouble, something that bothers us, affects us personally. An issue, something that bothers a group, community, or society, affects us socially. Troubles and issues are intricately connected. I'm overweight; it's a personal trouble. Fifty-eight percent of adult Americans are overweight; it's a social issue. This course examines social problems as both troubles and issues. As troubles, we look closely at how race, food, disease, income, alcohol, and other problems modify and change our personal lives. As issues, we look at how these troubles are linked to broader social, cultural, and historical patterns.

**Career and College Promise**  
**UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

## **Appendix B: House Bill 950 Session Law 2012-142**

(h) The State Board of Education shall reimburse The University of North Carolina for tuition for courses taken by students at cooperative innovative high schools that have a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina as their partner institution of higher education and were approved under G.S. 115C-238.51A(c). Tuition payments shall not exceed the annual Board of Governors-approved undergraduate resident tuition rate calculated on a per credit hour basis and shall not include fees. In addition, the cooperative innovative high school students' credit hours shall be nonfundable under The University of North Carolina Semester Credit Hour Enrollment Change Funding Model. The State Board of Education shall not reimburse The University of North Carolina for tuition for courses taken by students at cooperative innovative high schools that have a constituent institution of The University of North Carolina as their partner institution of higher education and were approved under G.S. 115C-238.51A(b). (Pg. 35)

# Career and College Promise UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report

## Appendix C: Tuition Example

### THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL TUITION AND FEES ACADEMIC YEAR 2013-2014

#### ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

		PER SEMESTER					
		RESIDENT			NONRESIDENT		
		TUITION	FEES	TOTAL	TUITION	FEES	TOTAL
<b>UNDERGRADUATES</b>							
Arts & Sciences, Business Administration, Education, General College, Journalism and Information & Library Science							
Credit Hours:	1 - 5.9 hrs	802.88	958.52	1761.40	3525.63	958.52	4484.15
	6 - 8.9 hrs	1605.75	958.52	2564.27	7051.25	958.52	8009.77
	9 - 11.9 hrs	2408.63	958.52	3367.15	10576.88	958.52	11535.40
Full Load	12 and above	3211.50	958.52	4170.02	14102.50	958.52	15061.02
<b>Seniors add \$1.00</b>							

#### **GRADUATES**

Includes Academic Affairs graduate students not specified in other sections of this schedule

Credit Hours:	0 - 2.9 hrs	1042.88	952.53	1995.41	3194.25	952.53	4146.78
	3 - 5.9 hrs	2085.75	952.53	3038.28	6388.50	952.53	7341.03
	6 - 8.9 hrs	3128.63	952.53	4081.16	9582.75	952.53	10535.28
Full Load	9 and above	4171.50	952.53	5124.03	12777.00	952.53	13729.53

#### **PART-TIME CLASSROOM STUDIES-UNDERGRADUATE**

Note: This classification is for students who do NOT already have a bachelor's degree.

Credit Hours:	1 - 5.9 hrs	802.88	17.19/hr	3525.63	17.19/hr
	6 - 8.9 hrs	1605.75	17.19/hr	7051.25	17.19/hr
	9 - 11.9 hrs	2408.63	17.19/hr	10576.88	17.19/hr
Full Load	12 and above	3211.50	17.19/hr	14102.50	17.19/hr

#### **PART-TIME CLASSROOM STUDIES-GRADUATE**

Note: This classification is for students who already have a bachelor's degree.

Credit Hours:	0 - 2.9 hrs	1042.88	24.95/hr	3194.25	24.95/hr
	3 - 5.9 hrs	2085.75	24.95/hr	6388.50	24.95/hr
	6 - 8.9 hrs	3128.63	24.95/hr	9582.75	24.95/hr
Full Load	9 and above	4171.50	24.95/hr	12777.00	24.95/hr

#### **Carolina Courses Online**

*Please note: Tuition and fee charges are per credit hour.*

217.00	13.16	230.16/hr	953.00	13.16	966.16/hr
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**Career and College Promise**  
**UNCG iSchool® Pathway Feasibility Report**

**Appendix D: Letters of Support**

**Local Education Agency (LEA)**

1. Asheboro City
2. Brunswick County
3. Cabarrus County
4. Catawba County
5. Charlotte-Mecklenburg
6. Columbus County
7. Currituck County
8. Duplin County
9. Franklin County
10. Guilford County
11. Iredell-Statesville
12. Lenoir County
13. Montgomery County
14. Nash-Rocky Mount
15. Polk County
16. Scotland County
17. Thomasville City
18. Union County
19. Wake County
20. Winston-Salem/Forsyth County

**Superintendent**

Dr. Diane L. Frost  
Dr. Edward H. Pruden  
Dr. Barry C. Shepherd  
Dr. Daniel V. Brigman  
Dr. Heath E. Morrison  
Mr. H. Alan Faulk  
Ms. Allison Sholar  
Dr. Austin Obasohan  
Dr. Lisa L. Martin  
Mr. Maurice O. Green  
Mr. Brady Johnson  
Dr. L. Stephen Mazingo  
Dr. Dale Ellis  
Dr. Anthony D. Jackson  
Mr. William J. Miller  
Mr. Rick Stout  
Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin  
Dr. Mary B. Ellis  
Dr. James G. Merrill  
Dr. Beverly R. Emory



# Asheboro City Schools

*...the subject is excellence*

*Office of the Superintendent*

P.O. Box 1103, Asheboro, NC 27204-1103 • 1126 S. Park St. • (336) 625-5104 • (336) 625-9238, fax

---

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured, and student centered manner.

With more than 342 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Diane L. Frost, Ph.D.  
Superintendent



# BRUNSWICK COUNTY SCHOOLS

35 Referendum Drive • Bolivia, North Carolina 28422 • Phone: 910-253-2900 • Fax: 910-253-2983

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 376 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward H. Pruden, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools





4401 Old Airport Road  
PO Box 388  
Concord NC 28026-0388

704-262-6123  
704-262-6175 fax

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

Cabarrus County Schools system supports adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program in the strongest possible terms.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured, and student-centered manner.

With more than 379 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Barry C. Shepherd'.

Barry C. Shepherd, Ed.D.  
Superintendent



Dr. Dan Brigman  
Superintendent

Pat Hensley  
Asst. Superintendent - Human Resources  
Steve Demiter  
Asst. Superintendent - Operations  
Beth Isenhour  
Asst. Superintendent - Curriculum & Instruction



2285 North Anderson Avenue  
PO Box 1010  
Newton, NC 28658  
828-464-8333

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 475 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. Daniel V. Brigman  
Superintendent



Feb. 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear legislators,

I'm writing to support adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina – in fact, our district had the third-highest level of participation in the state. We found the program successfully provided early college access to our juniors and seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student-centered environment.

More than 550 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®. They benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses.

Our state needs to expand access to early college for our students. Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would do that. It also would increase the likelihood of those students completing college within four years or less at a greatly reduced cost. This program offers substantial benefits to our students and our state, and I urge you to add it to the Career and College Promise Program.

Warm regards,



Dr. Heath E. Morrison  
Superintendent, Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools



# COLUMBUS COUNTYSCHOOLS

*Accredited by the State Board of Education and the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools*

## **BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Junior Dew  
Norris Ebron  
Worley T. Edwards  
Monte Herring  
Barbara Yates

## **ADMINISTRATION**

ALAN FAULK  
Superintendent  
  
JONATHAN WILLIAMS  
Assistant Superintendent

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee  
North Carolina General Assembly  
Legislative Building  
116 West Jones Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 399 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Please know that on behalf of the Columbus County School district, my leadership team and I are in full support of the in UNCG iSchool® and sincerely believe that this will benefit the students in our schools.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

H. Alan Faulk  
Superintendent



**Currituck County Schools**  
*A Beacon for Excellence in Education*

2958 Caratoke Highway, Currituck, NC 27929

Phone: (252) 232-2223 Fax: (252) 232-3655

Board of Education  
Dr. Bill Dobney, Chairman • Jackie Simmons, Vice-Chairman  
Darnell Gaddis • Karen Etheridge • Dwan Craft

Superintendent  
Allison Sholar

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

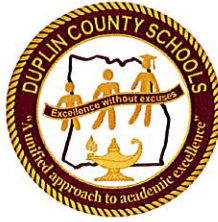
With more than **628** students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Superintendent



# Duplin County Schools

## Board Members:

Chuck Farrior,  
*Chairman*

Reggie Kenan,  
*Vice-Chairman*

Hubert Bowden

Pam Edwards

Brent Davis

Jennings Outlaw

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 504 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Austin Obasohan, Ed.D  
Superintendent

315 N. Main St. • Kenansville, NC 28349 • Phone: (910) 296-1521 • [www.duplinschools.net](http://www.duplinschools.net)

In compliance with federal laws, the Duplin County School System administers all educational programs, employment activities, and admissions without discrimination because of race, religion, national or ethnic origin, color, age, military service, disability, or gender, except where exemption is appropriate and allowed by law.





# Franklin County Schools

Our **F**uture, Our **C**ommitment, Our **S**tudents

Lisa L. Martin, Ph.D.  
Superintendent  
lisamartin@fcschools.net

Thomas E. Piper, Ed.S.  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Auxiliary Services

Cheryl H. Benson, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Human Resources

Douglas H. Moore, C.P.A.  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Business and Finance

Beverly L. Joseph, Ed.D.  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Exceptional Children/  
Student Services

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 406 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa L. Martin, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

53 West River Road  
Louisburg, NC 27549  
Phone 919.496.2600  
Fax 919.496.2104  
www.fcschools.net



Maurice O. Green  
Superintendent

February 27, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

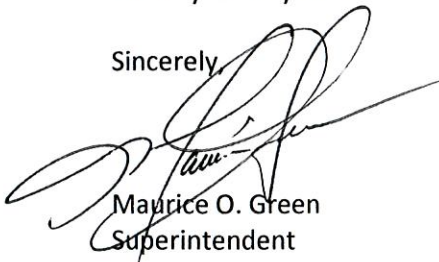
My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 440 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Maurice O. Green  
Superintendent

**STRIVING. ACHIEVING. EXCELLING.**

712 North Eugene Street Greensboro, NC 27401 P 336.370.8390 F 336.370.8299 E [greenmo@gcsnc.com](mailto:greenmo@gcsnc.com)

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 401 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Brady Johnson  
Superintendent  
704-924-2029



**SUPERINTENDENT**  
L. Stephen Mazingo, Ed.D.

**ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT**  
Diane H. Lynch

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS**  
M. Brent Williams



*Connecting Your Child to a Prosperous Future*

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February 26, 2014

North Carolina General Assembly  
Research Division  
Legislative Office Building (LOB)  
300 North Salisbury Street, Suite 545  
Raleigh, NC 27603-5925

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

Lenoir County Public Schools participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was successful at providing early college access to our juniors and seniors in a highly interactive, structured, and student-centered manner.

Students enrolled in UNCG iSchool® benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

L. Stephen Mazingo, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

rmb

cc: Diane Lynch, Associate Superintendent  
Ellen Benton, Executive Director of Education

**Lenoir County Public Schools**

PO Box 729 | 2017 W Vernon Avenue | Kinston NC 28502-0729 | Phone: 252.527.1109 | Fax: 252.527.6884 | [www.lenoir.k12.nc.us](http://www.lenoir.k12.nc.us)







441 Page Street • P.O. Box 427 • Troy, North Carolina 27371-0427  
(910) 576-6511 FAX (910) 576-2044

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 277 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Dale Ellis'.

Dr. Dale Ellis  
Superintendent



February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 388 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

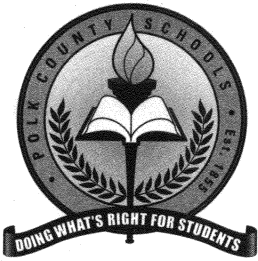
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Anthony D. Jackson  
Superintendent of Schools  
Nash-Rocky Mount Public Schools  
252-462-2511

ADJ:twp

# POLK COUNTY SCHOOLS



February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

## ADMINISTRATION

William J. Miller  
*Superintendent*

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

## BOARD OF EDUCATION

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My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 295 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

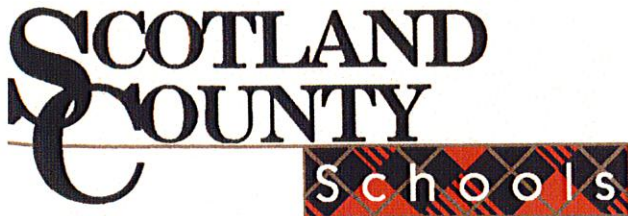
Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William J. Miller  
Superintendent

## STEARNS EDUCATION CENTER

Post Office Box 638  
125 East Mills Street  
Columbus, NC 28722  
828.894.3051  
828.894.8153 FAX



322 South Main Street  
Laurinburg, North Carolina 28352  
(910) 277-4459 • fax (910) 277-4310

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 280 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Stout".

Rick Stout  
Superintendent  
Scotland County Schools





A 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Community

Dr. Maria Pitre-Martin  
Superintendent

Board of Education:  
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Belinda Clark  
Crystal Hodges  
Keith Raulston  
Wendy Sellars

February 27, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 513 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mike Ingram  
Director of Technology  
Thomasville City Schools



**Dr. Mary Ellis – Superintendent**

**Board of Education**

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Marce Savage - Vice Chairman  
John Collins  
John Crowder  
Michael Guzman  
Christina B. Helms  
Sherry Hodges  
Rick Pigg  
Kevin Stewart

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislature  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I am writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool to the Career and College Promise Program.

Union County Public Schools participated in UNCG's iSchool program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to juniors and seniors in a highly interactive, structured, and student-centered manner.

With more than 672 enrollments in UNCG iSchool, students benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, training on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool is an option that would continue to expand Career and College Promise Program offerings and increase the likelihood of our students completing college within four years, or less, as well as discover unique talents associated with career exploration.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary B. Ellis, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

**Globalization. Innovation. Graduation.**



February 27, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives,

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 253 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Dr. James G. Merrill  
Superintendent



Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools  
P.O. Box 2513  
Winston-Salem, NC 27102-2513  
(336) 727-2816 Fax (336) 727-2008  
website: wsfc.k12.nc.us

February 26, 2014

House and Senate Education Committees  
North Carolina Joint Legislative  
Education Oversight Committee

Dear Senators and Representatives:

I'm writing in support of adding UNCG's iSchool® to the Career and College Promise Program.

My district participated in UNCG's iSchool® program when it was available across all of North Carolina, and it was greatly successful at providing early college access to our Juniors and Seniors in a highly interactive, structured and student centered manner.

With more than 384 students enrolled in UNCG iSchool®, they benefited from access to more than 15 college-level courses, trained on-site facilitators, UNCG's experienced online faculty, and well-designed and innovative online courses that met our student learning styles.

Adding UNCG iSchool® as an option within the Career and College Promise Program would expand early college access to our students, increasing the likelihood of them completing college within four years or less, at a greatly reduced cost.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Beverly R. Emory

**Board of Education**

A. L. (Buddy) Collins  
John Davenport, Jr.  
Jane D. Goins (Chair)  
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Irene May  
Jeannie A. Metcalf  
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**Dr. Beverly R. Emory**  
Superintendent

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